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No. 2

House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 31, 2006, at noon.

Senate

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2006

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal and ever blessed God, whose name is love, put Your love in our hearts. Teach us to love so that our primary aim in life will be to please You. Teach us to love so that our passion for You will provide the foundation of our obedience. Teach us to love so that worship will not be a duty but a delight. Teach all of us to love so that our greatest fear will be to disappoint You.

Teach our lawmakers to love so that they will always be quick to help and to forgive. Teach all of us to love so that hatred and bitterness will disappear from our hearts as we seek to be Your true followers.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, we will be in session for a very brief period this morning. In a few minutes, the President pro tempore will administer the oath of office to Senator-designate MENENDEZ. Following that swearing in, we will have a couple of housekeeping matters. Then we will adjourn for the day.

On behalf of the leader, I will have more to say on the schedule over the next week in the closing remarks.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The minority leader is recognized.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have announced on this side that there will be no morning business, no speeches, other than Senator LAUTENBERG and Senator MENENDEZ to speak about this important day in soon-to-be Senator MENENDEZ's life. That is an agreement I have with Senator FRIST. Members desiring to speak on other issues will not be able to do that today.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, we will proceed at 10:30 with the swearing in of Senator-designate MENENDEZ, but we do have housekeeping matters to take up.

I ask unanimous consent when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Friday, January 20, for a pro forma session only and that Senators be permitted to introduce bills on that day until the hour of 11 a.m. I further ask consent that the Senate adjourn until Tuesday, January 24, at 10 a.m. for a pro forma session and that committees be permitted to file legislative and executive items until 5 p.m. that day.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask consent following the pro forma session on Tuesday, the Senate stand in adjournment until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 25. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate then proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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